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The Highlander

Thursday **August 12 2021** | Issue 498

INSIDE: TEEN HELPING TO FEED FAMILIES PAGE 19

FREE



AND THE WINNER IS

Haliburton Rotary club president Heather Phillips and past president Ted Brandon reveal the winning raffle ticket for the club's annual car draw on Aug. 4. The raffle was a sell-out, raising \$64,963.22 for their work in the community. See the winners on page 21. Photo by Sam Gillett.

OPP say property theft on the increase

By Lisa Gervais

Erin Nicholls said he felt "sick to his stomach" when he entered his shed recently only to find that someone had taken his ATV four-wheeler, two chainsaws, two hunting bows and arrows.

The West Guilford resident said it's the first time something such as this has happened to him.

He said the fact he was home and tucked into bed when culprits executed the crime between about midnight and 5 a.m. is equally upsetting.

"In a small town, we've been safe our whole life here. We never had to worry about stuff like this. I guess we're trusting people."

However, the trust has been shattered for numerous Haliburton County residents in the past six weeks or so.

The Haliburton Highlands detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police issued a press release Aug. 5 warning the public of a recent increase in property thefts within the community.

"Since July 1, 2021 the Haliburton

Highlands detachment has received reports of approximately a dozen thefts of vehicles, licence plates and catalytic converters," police said.

Another victim reported a theft on Facebook. Graham Borgdorff said a snowmobile trailer was unlawfully removed from his driveway in Minden Hills while they were away. Borgdorff posted a picture of the 18 x 16 ft aluminium trailer asking people to share his post and "if you see it, please let me know."

Theresa and Gary Fahl were victimized,

too, having their 28-foot travel trailer stolen from a compound in Minden Hills. They reported the theft to OPP July 12. They got the trailer back but it had been trashed and was involved in a drug-related arrest.

Nicholls said he doesn't think he'll get his property returned and he has no idea what the motive for the break-in at his place was. He is troubled by the fact the shed's contents were not visible from the road. "Someone knew that stuff was here. Is it someone local? It is on the way to the city?"

Continued 'Police' on page 2

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Police offer prevention tips

Continued from page 1

You just want to know who would do such a thing and why.”

However, he said ever since he went public with what happened to him, he has heard of similar stories, including the theft of pontoon boats.

He added there was monetary value in what was taken, but sentimental value as well as one of the chainsaws belonged to his father and another to his brother. He had also built up a nice bow hunting equipment collection until the theft.

He said in talking to several people who have reached out to him, they are beginning to lock their homes and vehicles for the first time ever.

“How sad it is our community now has to be on watch all the time.”

In their warning, OPP said the incidents are under investigation and there is no concern for public safety.

They provided tips to keep possessions safe, such as:

- Install video surveillance at various locations around your property.
- Install an alarm system.
- Keep doors to vehicles locked and do not leave valuable items in your vehicle.
- Install motion sensed lights on

your property.

If you have information or video surveillance that may assist in these investigations, contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).



OPP have issued tips to help ward off thieves. *File.*



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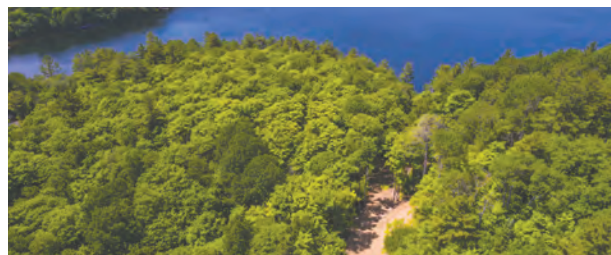
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Healthcare workers rally against wage caps

By Sam Gillett

Healthcare workers and their union representatives in Haliburton and Minden say legislation which unfairly caps wage increases and benefit packages targets a healthcare sector already battered by COVID-19.

Bill 124, first introduced by Doug Ford's government in 2019, limits wage and benefit increases to one per cent, which is lower than projected inflation rates in Canada.

The ruling would apply to healthcare workers at the Haliburton and Minden hospitals, including nurses, registered practical nurses (RPN), cleaning, clerical and support staff.

"After working through a pandemic this is how hospital workers are rewarded," said Nancy Cowan, chief steward of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) branch of the Services Employees International Union Healthcare (SEIU). The SEIU represents RPNs, mental health support workers, clerical workers, dietary aides and more.

The SEIU organized rallies in Haliburton and Minden on Aug. 4, inviting drivers in front of the healthcare centres to 'beep' their support.

Cowan said she's seen the impact COVID-19 has had on healthcare workers: some have left their professions entirely.

She said the bill shows a disregard for healthcare workers.

"They should be appreciating the frontline workers. They've worked hard through a lot of stress. They've worked overtime, they've worked wearing all the different [personal protective equipment]."

The bill also limits hospital workers' abilities to lobby for increases in mental health support.

Cowan said increased access to those supports are more important than ever.

"We've had staff that have left to find something a little less stressful," she said. Cowan, who usually works in an adult day program, was moved into long-term care support work during the pandemic. She said for many healthcare workers, the pandemic has been a tiring "learning process."

Pam Ward, an RPN who works at HHHS, said she feels like the rate of pay doesn't



Nancy Cowan, chief steward of the HHHS branch of the Services Employees International Union Healthcare helped organize a protest against Bill 124 outside HHHS Aug 4. Photo by Sam Gillett.

match a stressful and increased workload.

"We've not had a decent wage increase in 15 years. We haven't even had cost of living raises. We're basically making less now than when I first started," Ward said.

She said colleagues are considering becoming personal support workers, positions which pay slightly less but come with fewer responsibilities, Ward said.

In an email, HHHS CEO Carolyn Plummer said her staff have been working under "trying circumstances" because of COVID-19.

"Similar to other hospitals in the province, HHHS did not request legislative intervention into collective bargaining and did not support Bill 124 when it was first introduced or when it was passed. We do, however, support working towards a collective agreement that recognizes

the enormous value of our staff and also supports the delivery of the best quality of care for patients, residents, clients, and the community."

Province responds

In an email, press secretary at the Office of the President of the Treasury Board, Sebastian Skamski, said Bill 124 does not cap wages.

The salary growth cap doesn't account for wage increases due to experience. Skamski gives the example of a registered nurse, a profession not affiliated with the SEIU, with seven years of experience. The nurse would earn significantly more the next year, due to also gaining a year of experience which bumps up their earnings.

There were 15 HHHS registered nurses on this year's Public Salary Disclosure Act List, earning \$100,000 or more.

"It is wholly inaccurate to suggest that Bill 124 caps wages at one [per cent] annually. Under this legislation, Ontario's public sector employees will still be able to receive salary increases for seniority, performance, or increased qualifications as they do currently," wrote Skamski.

However, other healthcare professions rely on negotiated pay increases after reaching the end of much shorter wage grids. For example, mental health support workers max out at \$27.71 after two years and RPNs max out at \$31.18 after two years of work.

In partnership with the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the SEIU will resume bargaining in September with both unions representing 70,000 frontline workers.

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COUNTY NEWS



Warden Liz Danielsen and Haliburton County council continue to meet on Zoom. *File.*

Rail trail resurfacing tender awarded

The County has decided who will resurface a section of the Haliburton County Rail Trail.

Marquis Snow and Ice Ltd. from Lindsay will resurface and install signage along 15.5 km of the trail's southern end.

The company's \$168,028 estimate was the lowest of six bids received.

While an initial tender focused on resurfacing the northern section of the trail, the revised tender included a gravel overlay from near Francis Road to Boundary Road near Gelert. That section of trail has previously not received the treatment.

Some who bike the trail, such as Dysart et al mayor Andrea Roberts, say current trail surfaces can be difficult to bike and walk on.

"I'm very much looking forward to the resurfacing," Roberts said.

In April, the County's 2019 Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan (ICIP) application was approved, fully funding the trail resurfacing project. That totalled \$107,250 in federal funding and \$89,366 from the province. The County itself also contributed \$71,509.

Director of public works, Robert Sutton, also mentioned improved and expanded parking lots along the trail could be considered as a future use of those funds.

Algonquin Highlands mayor Carol Moffatt said the County needs to make sure both ends of the trail receive equal treatment.

"Whatever happens on this program in the south end needs to be replicated on the north end."

Staff research land acknowledgements

Haliburton County could soon open meetings with an acknowledgement of indigenous people who first lived in the Highlands.

Council has directed staff to report on ways Haliburton could implement the practice.

Danielsen said she has long hoped to introduce land acknowledgments, now a common fixture in Country-wide municipal and provincial meetings, to Haliburton County meetings.

After discussing with other wardens in the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, she said now could be a time to introduce the practice.

"It became very obvious that the acknowledgement itself of use of indigenous land is something council should be thinking about," Danielsen said.

Moffatt has been in contact with representatives from the Chippewas of Rama First Nation to discuss integrating acknowledgements into council proceedings.

"We're all in the William's treaty area, but our various municipalities were used differently by first nations," Moffatt said.

"I think there's an opportunity there to make that step, and I support it." (*County news compiled by Sam Gillett*)

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Welcome Centre opening a piece of the tourism 'puzzle'

By Sam Gillett

After a year of construction, the Haliburton welcome centre is open for business.

Provincial and federal representatives, Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts and the Rotary Club of Haliburton were on hand to cut the ribbon, celebrating the building which has been in the works for more than four years.

Proposed by Rotarians as a way to celebrate their 75th anniversary, it was made possible with \$75,000 from the club and a government grant of \$375,000.

"It's awesome to finally have it open and we're getting rave reviews from the community," said Rotarian and past president of the club, Ted Brandon, who was on hand when construction began last August.

Brandon said the building meets the needs of Haliburton's growing community.

"There are lots of new people in the area, lots of opportunities to tell them all the great things that are happening here in the Highlands."

The centre has seven washrooms as well as a central space with tourism information and staff available to answer questions.

"This is an absolutely amazing day," MP Jamie Schmale said. "The fact that the community can come together. They recognized there was this missing piece, they raised the funds locally, they submitted a strong application and the government felt it was worthwhile."



Rotarians and government representatives cut the ribbon in front of Haliburton's new welcome centre Aug. 4. In the front row: MP Jamie Schmale, Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts, Rotary president Heather Phillips and MPP Laurie Scott. Photo by Sam Gillett.

Schmale supported the application for funds at the federal level: "To see it finally happen is a great feeling," he said.

He also said the welcome centre represents a step forward for the County's growing economy.

"The fact that we can have this centre here and provide that little bit of information, and highlight some of the beautiful shops, cafes, stores in the area and among other things," he said.

"It all comes together as a big piece in this

puzzle, to help the economy of this area."

The welcome centre and its washrooms are open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Head Lake Park.

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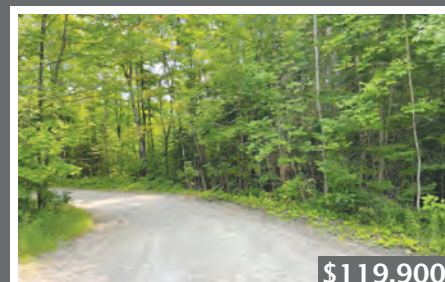
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DYSART ET AL

Docks will come at a cost

Property owners directly across roadways from municipally-owned waterfront land must now fund a public notification process when erecting docks.

That fee will be \$150, covering the cost of notifying municipal departments, landowners within 250 metres, posting notice to Dysart et al's website and signs that mark the location.

Staff will then review comments and present reports on land use to council.

"There's got to be some agreement between stakeholders that have an interest in the property," Coun. Larry Clarke said.

The rules do not apply to the illegal building of structures on road allowances, such as docks built by people who do not own land opposite the roadway.

Director of planning, Jeff Iles, said the changes have partly been prompted by other municipalities in Haliburton County focusing on the issue.

"Unapproved structures such as docks located on municipal road allowances has become an increasingly contentious issue in the County," he said.

Rains damage roadways

Dysart's public works department reported major damage to the township's roadways because of excessive rain in July.

"It's costing a lot of time and material to fix them all up. We're slowly getting there," operations manager, Jeff Sisson, told councillors at an Aug. 10 committee of the whole meeting.

He estimated the operations budget may be higher than anticipated this year.

"Generally we think where dollars can throw us off is one big wash-out or a really heavy year of bad snowstorms; and then the rain came in July," said Mayor Andrea Roberts, remarking on the "deluge" of summer rain.



Dysart et al council continues to meet on Zoom. *File.*

Director of public works, Rob Camelon, told council his department will request additional funds in the township's 2022 budget to hire a contractor to dig more ditches alongside public roads, noting that roads without ditches have seen the most damage.

Coun. John Smith said he's received many calls about poor road quality, and supports allocating more funds to remedy the issue.

"We shouldn't let dollars stand in the way of keeping the roads up to an acceptable level of repair," he said.

Park's trails get makeover

Asphalt trails in Head Lake Park are set to be refinished.

The scope of work includes resurfacing of 1,045 meters of pathways such as those extending from the foot bridge to Rotary beach and the stretch of trail between the park and Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

Marquis Snow & Ice Ltd. of Lindsay will complete the project at a cost of \$155,709.70. The work is funded through the federally-administered Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

Currently, there is no estimated date for completion.

Council mulls organic waste ideas

Dysart will examine options for dealing with organics and food waste composting apart from backyard composters.

It's a service many residents request, Roberts said.

"I'm sure every councillor hears from people out there who do want to be able to dispose of organic waste, and not just by having our own individual composters and digesters," she said.

Environmental manager, John Watson, provided a report detailing possible options.

He explained the concept behind MOLOK composting bins, which hold 850 kg of

organics in partially-underground cylinders and are emptied by heavy machinery.


However, there are currently no food waste composting facilities in the area with extra capacity.

"The real follow up is where do we send the material once it's collected?" Watson asked.

Dysart will submit an expression of interest to Peterborough, inquiring about shipping organic waste to the city's collection site which is slated for completion in the coming years.

Despite a desire to find ways to dispose of organics outside of composting, Watson said composting uptake is "quite high" and numbers of composting units distributed to private residences already surpasses those sold in 2020.

A key next step, said Watson, would be a four-season waste audit to determine the amount of organic food waste being produced in the County. An estimate of projected costs for such an audit will be submitted for consideration in the next municipal budget. (*Dysart et al news compiled by Sam Gillett.*)



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Highlander news

MINDEN HILLS NEWS

EV charging stations approved

If you own, or are thinking about buying, an electric vehicle - or visiting the area with one - you will soon have a place to charge in Minden Hills.

Council approved an agreement with IVY Network to install two dual port charging stations in the township office parking lot at 7 Milne St. They will be shared with the County of Haliburton.

It will cost the municipality \$2,500 plus HST in annual lease rates over a 10-year period. County climate change co-ordinator, Korey McKay, added the site will require electrical upgrades, costing the township up to \$7,000.

McKay said they could charge \$2 per hour for charging which would offset hydro costs.

Coun. Bob Carter said he was totally in favour "as we, to a certain extent, experiment to see how things will move in the future."

Coun. Pam Sayne said she was "really happy to see this coming onboard, love to see more of these put in, not just the two. I think they're going to be used rather quickly."

Trailers allowed while building

Council formalized the process that will allow people to temporarily live in a recreational vehicle or trailer while building new homes in Minden Hills.

A public meeting on a zoning bylaw amendment was held at council's July 29 meeting. There were no written submissions and one member of the public spoke out.

In her report, Amanda Dougherty of DM Wills Associates Ltd. emphasized there must be an active building permit. She stressed it is temporary in nature; during

construction only, and permitted only where a lot does not already provide for a dwelling unit.

Coun. Jean Neville said she was worried that temporary was not being defined. She said it takes some people years to build new homes and it could go on "Ad infinitum."

Dougherty said they were not suggesting a time limit since delays are common and have been aggravated with impacts from COVID-19. However, she added if not active, a building permit can be revoked and RV and trailer use not allowed.

Council received a report June 24, which provided an update on RV and trailer storage and use issues which have arisen repeatedly within the township. Prior to the new rules, people could only use RVs and trailers in permitted camping establishments or trailer parks.

Climate change update

McKay presented options for Minden Hills to revise its greenhouse gas emission targets.

She said corporate emissions remained stable over 2018-2019 but increased five per cent in 2020. Fleet was stable. Buildings were down 18 per cent due to pandemic closures and landfill was up seven per cent, attributed to more people in the area for longer periods of time in the pandemic.

McKay presented three options: maintaining existing targets; a 30 per cent reduction to limit global warming to a 2C increase; or 45 per cent, to limit global warming to 1.5C.

"Science highlights why ambitious action is necessary," she said.

In 2020, the township committed to reducing corporate greenhouse gas emissions by 20 per cent for buildings; 10 per cent for fleet; and 10 per cent for waste from 2018 levels by 2030.

"I firmly believe that we need to be doing this and 30 per cent is probably the minimum," said Carter, "however, how do

we measure something here that is real and reasonable?"

Sayne said Minden Hills spent more than \$25,000 on a report on how to reduce emissions in its buildings and said she did not see it anywhere in the County's climate change process so it's "disjointed" between lower-tier and upper-tier government. She encouraged looking at existing data and tapping into work that has already been done.

Council received the report for information only.

Moore Lake estates drainage

Drainage improvements are coming to Shetland Road and Moore Lake Estates.

Council approved the tender to the lowest bidder, W.G. Jackett and Sons Construction.

Director of public works, Travis Wilson, said it is on budget. The total cost is \$162,386.16.

Staff recommended including a 10 per cent (\$14,000) contingency allowance to the construction portion of work to allow for any change orders that may be required.

Should the project run over budget, staff recommended that an increase to the proposed debenture be utilized in the absence of a departmental surplus.

Sayne, who has been asking for drainage works for some time, thanked staff on behalf of herself, residents and the past councillor who had worked on the file.

"This has been a long time coming," she said.

Contract awarded for website

Council awarded the contract for website design and development to eSolutions Group Limited for \$42,980, plus an extra \$1,500 for Form Builder Module.

In a report to council, CAO and clerk, Trisha McKibbin, said the company provided the most comprehensive submission and has the most extensive municipal experience with websites.

Coun. Jennifer Hughey asked if they would be able to incorporate ecommerce, for example, donation forms for the 'take a seat' program and other arena fundraising initiatives. McKibbin said not initially but in future.

Hughey also asked about timing and McKibbin said eSolutions said they could complete the work in four months.

Hughey commented, "I look forward to having less calls about how difficult our website is to navigate."

Fire department busier in 2020

Fire chief Nelson Johnson said his department had a 27 per cent increase in calls in 2020, and a 19 per cent jump in hours, compared to 2019.

In his annual fire report, Johnson said in 2020 volunteers responded to 105 medical calls, covering 420 hours. He added there were 193 fire and rescue calls, covering 2,780 hours - for a total of 298 calls and 3,200 hours.

In 2019, there were 111 medical calls for 333 hours and 108 fire and rescue calls for 2,267 hours or a total of 219 calls and 2,600 hours for the year.

The department has two executive officers, one part-time administrative person and 25 volunteers.

"The fire department had 312 hours towards Monday night fire practice and attended 298 calls for service, without an injury, illness or reported sickness," he said.

They have two engines, one water tender, one light rescue unit, one boat and one ATV.

He said he spent one quarter of his time on COVID-19 related meetings. (*Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais*)

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

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Time for a fireworks ban

As a kid, I remember our family visiting a nearby park for the annual Victoria Day fireworks. Put on by the township, hundreds of people would gather for the annual pyrotechnics display.

Were they bad for the environment? Most definitely. Did we know that at the time? Not really.

However, in 2021, there is plenty of evidence pointing to the damaging effects of fireworks on the environment, animals and human health.

The Land Between did some research in 2019 on the effects.

It said that, according to figures provided by the Office of the Ontario Fire Marshal, fireworks were blamed for 129 fires and almost \$2.5 million in damage in Ontario between 2009 and 2013.

In addition to property destruction, they said research showed the noise from fireworks causes fear, stress and anxiety in wild animals.

Birds and other small mammals are often reported abandoning their nests, leaving their defenceless babies behind due to trauma they experience from the loud bangs of combustion. The panic can make animals so disoriented they can't relocate their homes.

For humans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and anxiety, it can also be

very unpleasant.

Fireworks also expose humans and animals to toxic chemicals from the smoke upon combustion.

When fireworks explode, chemicals and small minerals are released into the atmosphere. Those that fall to the ground can pollute waterways.

Some places have banned fireworks. In Canada, Banff, Alberta ditched them in 2018.

Beijing, China has outlawed the use of fireworks completely, as the risk of air pollution is too high. Collecchio, Italy has switched to silent fireworks to reduce anxiety among animals.

At a time when the County of Haliburton and its four lower-tier municipalities are preaching the need to protect our lakes, with a proposed shoreline preservation bylaw and septic reinspection programs, surely it's time to talk about fireworks.

We understand that some people in the Highlands enjoy fireworks during long summer nights at the cottage however is it something that we need? Of course, the answer is 'no.'

Knowing that a few minutes of fun self-indulgence can separate animal babies from their mothers, pollute the water and impact your health should make you reconsider your need to light up the sky and create

booming noise.

The County already provides spectacular night skies. They are called stars and the Milky Way. The sounds can also be deafening: loons, frogs, owls.

It is time for the County of Haliburton and its municipalities to ban personal fireworks.

Some have said they should still be allowed on long summer weekends, set off by the townships.

Perhaps that could be a compromise if they use fireworks that produce less noise among combustion; wait until well after dusk as late evening is prime feeding time for many animals; clean up residue promptly and thoroughly to avoid toxic chemicals and other poisons harmful to animals if they ingest them; stay away from trees, known nesting areas or other acknowledged wildlife areas; and use open fields rather than near waterways or close to lakes.

But, really, banning fireworks altogether would send a clear message to full-time and seasonal residents that it's a matter of health and environment first over short-term personal pleasure.



By Lisa Gervais

Getting youth vaccinated

As parents, we want what's best for our children and teens. We want to offer support, protection, and advice. Although hugs may be a tougher sell for teenagers, they are important too – just like COVID-19 vaccines.

Right now, getting our youth vaccinated for COVID-19 is essential, especially before the start of school. The headlines are correct, a fourth wave of COVID-19 is likely this fall. While many older people are fully vaccinated, young people 12-17 years of age have the lowest COVID-19 vaccination rate of any age group in our region.

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is safe, effective and approved for use in anyone 12 years and older (COVID-19 vaccines for younger children are still in clinical trials and awaiting regulatory approval for use). Two doses of Pfizer vaccine are needed for

full protection, and the good news, is that there is plenty of supply locally, so no youth has to go unvaccinated and unprotected.

We know our youth are strong, resilient, and if sick with COVID-19, usually experience mild side effects. This is not the case for others whom a youth may encounter, should they be infected with COVID-19.

With an increase in fully vaccinated youth, we stand a better chance against a fourth COVID-19 wave caused by the highly-infectious Delta variant. Simply put, if our young, able-bodied constituents aren't protected from this even more dangerous variant, then neither are we as a community.

Let's encourage our teens to get vaccinated. Urge them to do it for the grandparent who has been isolated in a long-term care home and wants to give her grandchild a big hug. Do it so they

can go back to in-person learning in September to see all their friends and favourite teachers. Do it so they can get back to what they love doing – hockey, dance, art class or hanging out with friends.

With fall, a new school year and (unfortunately) a fourth COVID-19 wave quickly approaching, the time to act, the time to get vaccinated is now. As parents, we need to move the needle and encourage our youth to get vaccinated. For their sake, our piece of mind, and our community's protection. (Dr. Natalie Bocking, Medical Officer of Health, HKPR District Health Unit).



By Dr. Natalie Bocking

HAVE AN OPINION?

Send your letters to
editor@thehighlander.ca
(300 words max)

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Proposing a personal fireworks ban

Dear editor,

As a resident of Minden Hills and Horseshoe Lake, I am emailing you about the use of personal fireworks. You may remember a petition was sent a couple of years ago, calling for a complete ban of personal fireworks, but allowing those put on by townships, overseen by fire departments.

The rate at which our climate is changing for the worse indicates it is beyond time to enact a complete ban. As we watch the extreme weather occurring on the west coast of Canada, and we, in Minden, having experienced an incredibly dry spring with low water levels for our third year,

It is irresponsible to allow the use of personal fireworks to continue or we will end up in a situation like the west coast.

The townships, Horseshoe Lake Property Owners Association (HLPOA) and the BeShore groups advocate for naturalization of our shores to protect the most valued aspect of this area, the water by which we live.

Allowing fireworks to be used and therefore depositing heavy metals into the water is quite contrary to what is being advocated.

Aside from the pollution, there is the increased risk of fires, the strain on wildlife such as birds abandoning their young, mammals becoming disoriented and running into roads. This also strains the good people at Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary who tirelessly work to keep our wildlife bountiful. Not only does this affect the wildlife that we share these beautiful lands with, but it affects those that we may share our homes with. The noise pollution from fireworks can be triggering to our household pets and especially to those with health concerns aggravated by flashing lights and loud explosions.

As a tax paying 80-year resident of Minden Hills and having seen much deterioration of the life in our water algae blooms, no bullfrogs, crayfish, catfish schools, threatened snakes, endangered turtles, the Council of Haliburton County is urged to be a leader in the fight against climate change and enact a full ban in the use of personal fireworks. It is time that we put our words into action to protect our environment.

Carol Jamieson Hewitt
Minden Hills

Will take the chance

Dear editor,

While COVID-19 is busy screwing up businesses and costing lives, we have an end in sight, the vaccine, but people have to take it.

Douglas Smith's letter regarding adverse effects from the vaccine is useless misinformation unless averaged against doses administered.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Cindy Nesbitt sent in this photo, titled 'early mornings in Minden.'

So, taking a quick look here are the facts. Everyone who has brought home a prescription from the pharmacy and taken the time to read the four pages of warnings will be aware that to every medication there can be adverse reactions which need to be balanced against the positive effect.

The following figures speak for themselves, they are mortality rates per one million people, judge for yourself.

Mortality rates per one million people from: COVID-19: 26,000; COVID-19 vaccine: 17.64; common daily Aspirin: 22.9; a car accident: 119; a bee or wasp sting: 14.39. Looking up blood clots from Astra Zeneca: one in 250,000; from the birth control pill: one in 1,000. That about sums it up. You will definitely live longer if you never leave the house.

Keith W. Stata
Kinmount

Inclusion by vaccination

Dear editor,

I'm sure there are many people in a real quandary out there with all this vaccination information.

On the one hand, we have scientists, immunologists, epidemiologists, provincial and federal health ministers, Health Canada, the World Health Organization, family doctors and so on all doing everything in their power to convince all of us to get our COVID vaccinations. Let's call them the "smart" people.

And on the other hand, we see information gleaned from rumours, ill-informed neighbours, dangerous social media platforms, cosmic telepathy and letters like Doug Smith's in last week's paper.

What is one to think? For some, it is all quite confusing. Perhaps we have two groups of people; some believe that vaccinations are a good thing and save

lives. These same people also believe that smoking is harmful, that the world is round and that Elvis is indeed dead. They wear seat belts in the car, brush their teeth and follow the advice of the "smart" people.

The other group will need some encouragement and I would propose a two-step process to help them along.

The first step is for the provincial government to immediately institute a COVID vaccination certificate, available to anyone who has obtained the requisite two jabs. This card would accompany all the other documents we all carry with us and use on a regular basis.

The second part of the process is where the clout is, as it were. "Inclusion by vaccination." Mandate that any public facility or service may serve only those who are vaccinated until such time as it is determined that the pandemic is truly behind us. Grocery stores, theatres, libraries, airlines, accommodation ... you get the picture. It won't take long before the unvaccinated who are a) lazy, b) skeptics, c) conspiracy theorists or d) libertarians decide that the only route to life as they, and the rest of us, knew it, is to help safeguard our collective health and get vaccinated.

Sean Pennylegion
Haliburton

Dorset park remains a public space

Dear editor,

The Dorset Community Partnership Fund (DCPF) is pleased to announce that thanks to a generous donor in our community, the Dorset Pavilion Park will remain a public space open to all for an additional 10 years.

Proof again that partnerships work effectively in our community.

Hard to believe that it was just 10 years

ago that we began our journey to fence off the park land for safety, built a pavilion and public washrooms.

We are grateful to the previous donor who leased the land to the community for the previous 10 years.

The park became a reality thanks to the private donations of local residents and cottagers. We also appreciate the contributions from multiple private organizations and government granting programs over the years. Together we have invested over \$120,000 in the park and it has been an open space for many family picnics, weddings and young soccer enthusiasts to name a few.

The park will continue to be leased by the Township of Lake of Bays for the next 10 years and among many supports they will maintain the property in cooperation with the DCPF.

We want to thank the mayor and council for their participation in this project. The township carries the liability insurance thus should you wish to book an event please contact them. DCPF will in the coming years hold special events including fundraising events – remember the "great winter sleep outs" raising funds for the Community Health Hub!

Above all we would like to recognize our community donors. Don Tapscott and Ana Lopes who have purchased the property, worked closely with DCPF and leased it back to the Township of Lake of Bays.

Don and Ana have been strong supporters of many projects in our community over the years and we are grateful for their ongoing vision to join the partnership in creating a vibrant community. DCPF will work with Don and Ana to continue to develop this community asset welcoming all to participate in this beautiful community space.

Collin Reaney
DCPF board member

Highlander business

Co-owner feels post-prohibition excitement

By Lisa Gervais

Pending getting their Internet sorted, Minden cannabis products' store, Northern High, is anxious to open its doors.

Dale Schumacher and Beverly Primrose have purchased the building at 101 Bobcaygeon Rd. which includes a storefront and three other units.

They are putting the finishing touches on the pot shop out front.

With connections to the City of Kawartha Lakes, Lindsay, Bobcaygeon and Dunsford, the two said

Minden feels like their back yard.

"I own several businesses and I just see an opportunity," Schumacher said. "They (the federal government) legalized cannabis almost three years ago. I thought, what a better way to expand, being on the cusp of the legalization of marijuana, and we started applying for licenses last year. We ran into many roadblocks with the Ontario government but Beverly sifted through the mud and we've now got all the licenses we required."

Primrose said she worked with the government writing programs for youth at risk with the law with addictions and

mental health.

"It felt like a natural progression," she said of partnering with Schumacher on the venture. "The main thing for us is we'd like to give a good kick to the black market as best as possible. Educate people because there is still the stigma attached to it."

Schumacher added, "It's (the legalization of cannabis) not going away so we thought with Beverly's education, people are buying cannabis on the black market and don't know what they are getting. Here, it's pristine quality merchandise, all government regulated and labeled and in a sterile environment. We can help them with finding out what they want, what they don't want, what their needs are and what their wants are."

While there have been setbacks, such as waiting for internet, licensing, buying and renovating the building, the two remain optimistic.

Schumacher said four to five people poke their heads in the door daily to see if they are open and Primrose has given some sneak peeks.

"I love this town. I love this community. I want to get to them know better," she said.

"I'd almost like to think that this could be the Cheers ... you know, everyone knows your name ... I'd like to be able to integrate myself more within the community and we're really excited."

The two said they have created a high-end looking store that is still accessible to all. Primrose said her goal is a country café feel. They have sourced a lot of local products to fashion the interior and will also be employing four locals. They already have merchandise.

Primrose said, "I want people to feel they can come in and ask questions and it's not a place I can't walk into because they're hoity toity."

Schumacher said there will always be people who don't support the legalization of cannabis. However, Primrose said Minden has been welcoming, "I've met so many beautiful people out there. I've just enjoyed it. It feels like I'm not coming to work, I'm coming home."

"We're just so excited," added Schumacher. "For me, it's not about the money anymore. It's the challenge. You go back in time when prohibition ended and this is like taking us back to that."



Dale Schumacher and Beverly Primrose look at a display cabinet.
Photo by Lisa Gervais

Northern High is at 101 Bobcaygeon Rd.
705-286-1200; info@northern-high.ca;
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Highlander health

HEALTH NEWS

Minden immunization clinic to close Sept. 3

As of Friday, Sept. 3, the mass immunization clinic in Minden will close.

Instead, the Health Unit will look to further focus efforts by offering more mobile and pop-up clinics in parts of its region where COVID-19 vaccination rates are lower and accessing clinics may be a challenge.

Medical officer of health, Dr. Natalie Bocking said, "Our mass immunization clinics have successfully served their purpose, providing thousands of first and second doses to local residents. But now we need

to direct our resources in a smarter, more targeted approach to reach those individuals who have still

not received a vaccine or found it difficult to access one."

Between now and Sept. 3, walk-ins and appointments will continue to be offered at the Health Unit's

clinic site in Minden. Both mRNA COVID-19 vaccines (Pfizer and Moderna) are available at these clinics.

A complete list of dates, time and locations for these clinics is available at hkpr.on.ca.

Many pharmacies in the Health Unit region also continue to offer COVID-19 vaccines, as well as health care providers in the region.

First 5050 winner announced

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) has announced its first grand prize winner in its new monthly online 50/50 lottery draw.

Brian Daoust of Haliburton had his winning ticket drawn July 30. He won \$4,248. Tickets are available for purchase for the August draw until 11:59 p.m. on Aug. 30. The grand prize draw will take place on Aug. 31.

Tickets can be purchased online at hhhsf5050.ca and in person at the HHHS Foundation's Haliburton office 7199 Gelert Rd. Visit the website for rules of play information.

Continuing to fight for LTC

Members of the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes Long-Term Care Coalition presented a petition to local Member of Provincial Parliament, Laurie Scott's office, in Lindsay Aug. 6.

The coalition said Scott was unavailable to meet with them.

The petition, signed by more than 3,600 residents from across Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes, calls upon Scott to take concerns to the new Minister of LTC, Rod Phillips, the Minister of Health, Christine Elliott and Premier Doug

Ford, "to find immediate solutions to this long-standing crisis in LTC."

Coalition chair, Bonnie Roe of Haliburton, said "changes have been needed for a long time. We know what needs to be done, it's about taking action now on very specific 'fixes'."

The group has been calling for: amendments to the Canada Health Act to include LTC, to ensure public funding and national standards; providing at least four hours of direct care per day, per resident and improving working conditions for staff; reinstating 'spot' quality, annual inspections and enforcement; changing the culture of care for seniors – less institutional, more home like; and taking the profits out of LTC.

The petition remains open for signature: ltnneedsyou.ca or call Mike Perry: 705-328-4479 or Bonnie Roe: 705-286-2414, to sign a paper copy.

A plea to follow public health measures

As of the latest assessment centre positivity report, Haliburton County had one unresolved case of COVID-19.

The report, spanning the period July 12-23 found the positivity rate was 2.42 per cent with an average of 62 tests completed each week. The Delta variant accounted for 66.67 per cent of positive tests.

"Although the overall number of COVID-19 positive cases are declining, it is critical

that public health measures continue to be followed in order to help prevent further spread of the virus and the variants of concern, particularly as the province moves ahead with its Roadmap to Reopen plan," the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team, Haliburton County Paramedic Service and Haliburton Highlands Health Services said in a joint media release.

They urged people to continue wearing masks, social distancing, frequent handwashing and getting vaccinated.

Incentives for youth vaccines

Young people are being enticed to get a COVID-19 vaccine by prizes for getting their vaccines before the start of school and a possible fourth wave.

Youth can walk into any Health Unit COVID-19 vaccination clinic in Cobourg, Campbellford, Minden and Fenelon Falls to get a first or second dose. Walk-ins are welcome 2-7 p.m. and a full list of clinic dates and locations are at hkpr.on.ca. The drive-through COVID-19 clinic at the Lindsay Exhibition is also offering no-appointment vaccinations for anyone 12 and older.

Prizes include a draw to win AirPods or Apple gift cards. To enter, youth or their parent/guardian can email stickittocovid@hkpr.on.ca or call the Health Unit and leave a message at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 1508.



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<p style="color: red; text-align: center;">MONDAY, AUGUST 23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Flag Raising</p> <p>Time: 11:00am Location: Minden Municipal Office parking lot or online at our Facebook page.</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">MONDAY-FRIDAY, AUGUST 23-27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEW ALL WEEKLONG EVENT!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Rainbow Scavenger Hunt</p> <p>Visit www.mindenpride.ca for instructions.</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">TUESDAY, AUGUST 24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Movie Night featuring Papi Chulo</p> <p>Time: 8:00pm (gates open at 7:00) Location: Abbey Gardens Little Pit Drive In. Please register at www.abbeygardens.ca/littlepitdrivein</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Drag Storytime</p> <p>Time: 10:00am Location: Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Details at www.eventbrite.ca/e/storytime-with-drag-queen-aunty-plum-tickets-164339388535</p>	<p style="color: red; text-align: center;">THURSDAY, AUGUST 26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Minden Pride Trivia Night</p> <p>Time: 7:00- 9:30pm Location: The Dominion Boat House. Please preregister by noon that day at trivianight@mindenpride.ca</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">FRIDAY, AUGUST 27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pride Bench Dedication</p> <p>Time: 12:00pm Location: Minden River Walk. Check out our video tribute to Sinclair Russell at www.mindenpride.ca</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">SATURDAY, AUGUST 28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Parade Your PRIDE Colours (Rain date: Aug 29th). Time: 12:00 – 6:00pm and Float Down the Gull with PRIDE! Time: 1:00- 3:00pm Visit www.mindenpride.ca for more information about these events!</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">SUNDAY, AUGUST 29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Multi-Faith Service</p> <p>Time: 1:00pm Location: this is an online event. Register at multifaith@mindenpride.ca for this online event</p>
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Highlander education

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

Some concerns about September

With nearly 300 students choosing online learning for September, it will have an impact on what schools can offer, says Craig Horsley, president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation (OSSTF) District 15.

A total of 297 high school students across the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) have opted to learn from home, he said.

He said as a result, optional courses such as music and technological studies could be hit hard. He said there is some limited government funding available for online learning but it is not enough and the shortage will take money away from brick-and-mortar schools.

"There will be fewer senior optional courses available in-person, or if they run, many of those courses will be running at a maximum number allowed," Horsley said.

Regarding a return to extra-curriculars, Horsley suggested the priority should be getting all students back in the buildings for a full semester and then see what happens.

"We would prefer a more gradual rollout of the school year, with a focus on academics, and then we can think about things like extra-curriculars," Horsley said.

Horsley questioned who the ministry consulted with about plans for September, saying it was not education stakeholders.

He added parents and many of his members are "really divided" about the return to school and acknowledged the importance of extra-curriculars for student mental health and wellbeing.

"I personally find it disheartening that the province is normalizing COVID and its threats and almost treating it like another kind of flu," Horsley said. "As we see the dominance of the Delta variant and case numbers rising in the province, I would encourage everyone who can to get vaccinated."

Board, teachers reach agreement

After months of negotiations and the intervention of a provincial conciliator, the TLDSB and District 15 of the OSSTF have reached and ratified a new three-year



TLDSB Director Wes Hahn. File.

collective agreement.

Horsley said he's pleased with the contract, calling it a housekeeping agreement that focused on local working conditions and featured no obvious losses for local secondary teachers.

"We were able to clear up a lot of little stuff and there is now much clearer language and policies in place that guide how an occasional teacher can make the transition to full-time work and part-time staff will be offered sections based on seniority and qualifications. For supply teachers, the system has been regionalized and involves a rotating list that the board hopes to automate soon," he said.

With the new destreamed Grade 9 math curriculum rolling out this September, the two sides agreed to set class sizes for this new course at 25.

For the next three years, teachers, like all provincial civil servants, will see a one per cent per year pay increase as mandated by Bill 124.

Horsley predicted very little full-time permanent hiring for the new school year because enrollment across TLDSB is either static or declining.

The ratified contract impacts more than 800 occasional and full-time staff at the secondary level.

Horsley said virtual negotiations were tough and praised the provincial conciliator. The board was represented by retired superintendant Dianna Scates. The board declined comment. (School board news compiled by Kirk Winter)

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TheHighlander It's what everyone's reading

Highlander arts

Celebrating 50 years of rock history at Head Lake

By Lisa Gervais

The County continues to embrace the return of live entertainment with the Highlands Summer Festival (HSF) presenting Rock the Night Away, a concert, the weekend of Aug. 20-21.

HSF spokesman Jack Brezina said there will be three, free, performances: Aug 20 at 7 p.m. and Aug. 21 at 2 and 7 p.m. at the Head Lake Park bandshell.

He said the concert, created by Leisa Way, will celebrate 50 years of rock history, including songs from Buddy Holly, The Beatles, Bruce Springsteen, Elvis, Linda Ronstadt, Chuck Berry, Led Zeppelin, Freddie Mercury and Queen, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, The Eagles, Steppenwolf, Fleetwood Mac, The Guess Who, Bachman Turner Overdrive, The Animals, Jimi Hendrix, Trooper, Van Morrison, Jefferson Airplane, The Who, Procol Harum, The Doobie Brothers and more.

Way formed Way-To-Go Productions 10 years ago and has enjoyed success with the 12 concerts she has created. These concerts include Across the Pond (The British Invasion); Sweet Dreams (Patsy Cline), Early Morning Rain, which celebrates the legendary Canadian singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot; Rhinestone Cowgirl (Dolly Parton), and the patriotic Oh, Canada, We Sing for Thee! which travelled to 44 cities across the country during Canada's 150th birthday.



The Rock the Night Away band is headed to the Highlands. Photo submitted.

The Wayward Wind Band are singer-multi-instrumentalists. They include Fred Smith, who performed with the likes of Chuck Berry, The Supremes, The Drifters, and The Mamas and The Papas. Bobby Prochaska is a Broadway veteran (Buddy Holly and original production of Crazy for

You (Royal Alex). Musical arranger Bruce Ley was The Tommy Hunter Show pianist, is the composer of an Academy Award-nominated film and his band once opened for The Rolling Stones. Drummer Don Reid is a versatile percussionist who also plays with many orchestras and stage shows.

This is a free concert (donations gladly accepted), but tickets are required due to limited seating. For tickets contact the Highlands Summer Festival at 705-457-9933 or visit highlandssummerfestival.on.ca/season-pass/

INFORMATION PAGE

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Employment Opportunities

We are currently looking to fill a variety of positions within multiple departments. Many opportunities with the Township include benefits such as enrollment in a comprehensive benefit package, access to an Employee Assistance Plan, life insurance, personal health coverage, enrollment in the OMERS pension plan, vacation, float and sick time entitlements as well as opportunities for training and development.

Please see below and visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities for more information and application deadlines.

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The Building Inspector is responsible for the application and enforcement of the Ontario Building Code, provincial legislation, all Municipal by-laws and other applicable laws in order to ensure compliance. Candidates will be certified in **General Legal/Process and House or Small Buildings**, as set out by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and as per the Ontario Building Code. This is a permanent, full time union position. Hours are 35/week. Rate of Pay is \$26.60/hour, subject to union dues. Refer to the job posting and description located on our website for a complete list of requirements and how to apply.

Camping Fuel Canisters

Please bring empty camping fuel canisters to a hazardous waste event. **Do not put camping fuel canisters in the Blue Box.**

Hazardous Waste Collection Event

The next Household Hazardous Waste collection event is **Saturday, September 11, 2021** at the Scotch Line Landfill from 8am to 11:30am. Please visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for a list of accepted items.

(Virtual) Council Meetings

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

August 26
Regular Council Meeting
September 9
Regular Council Meeting

Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one (1) meeting a month in August and December.

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

Highlander arts



Art on the water makes a splash on Lake Kash

Kash Art on the Water splashed onto Lake Kashagawigamog for the first time Aug. 7. On docks, lawns and in driveways, 14 artists and two food vendors sold art and artisan goods. Similar to the annual Art on the Dock at Kennisis Lake, nearby cottagers, residents and tourists visited artists and artisans by boat and car. The event was organized by Danielle Martin,

Kirsten Sixt, Lesley Sahakian and Allison Barrow. The lake association, on Facebook, said the day was a “great success. Thank you to all the organizers and artist[s] for sharing your talents! And a big thank you to all who came out to show your support, got in some early Christmas shopping and enjoyed the day.” (Sam Gillett).

Top: Phillip Carroll displays his woodworking. Bottom: Deborah Ann Morris of Image'n'Thyme Studio and Gardens creates mixed media paintings and collages. Photos by Sam Gillett.



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Highlander arts

Live music at the Gardens



Music lovers ate and drank while listening to live music at Abbey Gardens the weekend of Aug. 6-8. The Music at the Gardens concert series, produced in partnership with the Haliburton County Folk Society, combined matinee and evening performances of musical acts from near and far. *Photo by Janis Parker.*



Jocelyn Regina, Kelly McNamee and Brittany Robinson of Lunar Bloom performed the Aug. 8 matinee show. *Photo by Janis Parker.*



Celebrated tenor John McDermott and his accompanying band closed the weekend with an intimate show on Sunday night. *Photo by Janis Parker.*

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Highlander arts



Photographers encouraged to get creative

The Haliburton Highlands Camera Club's last competition was nature-themed. Spokesperson Hana Curtis said the winners were: first advanced "I See You" by Stan Fisher; first intermediate "Other Loon Parent with chicks" by Larry Murphy and first novice "November Ice Art" by Lorry

Brandon. Curtis said the club continues to be active online and holds monthly meetings by Zoom. "Since members have not been able to get out and shoot as much as they would like, they are encouraged to get innovative with their older images using various photo editing software to

come up with something new and creative," Curtis said. Visit their website at highlandscameraclub.ca to view all competition images and follow them on Facebook. (Lisa Gervais)

Top: camera club first intermediate. Bottom left: camera club first novice. Bottom right: camera club first advanced.

Tim Kegel

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Highlander people



Jean and Godfrey Tyler have been mentoring Evan Armstrong this summer as the 16-year-old tries his hand at farming. Photo by Sam Gillett.

Teen sets the table for Highlands families

By Sam Gillett

Most days this summer, 16-year-old Evan Armstrong cycles by the leafy forests and lush meadows of Old Donald Road on his way to Waverley Brook Farm. Beside the farm’s wooden homestead lies Armstrong’s summer business venture: a sprawling garden. Since June 22, the teen has run his own business collecting produce for food boxes picked up by 10 local families each week. Under the mentorship of Jean and Godfrey Tyler, farmers who’ve worked the land for decades, Armstrong’s business is more than a way to make money: it’s taught him business skills, nurtured a love of organic farming and raised important questions about agricultural mentorship in the Highlands. After running a food box program for years, Jean and Godfrey wanted to shift focus to their cattle, maple syrup and forestry operations. But their large garden plot and irrigation system was still ripe for produce. So, this spring, they approached Armstrong to see if he might want to restart the program. “We set up goals, we set up a business plan for him, we were going to mentor him throughout the summer,” Jean said. That suited the teen just fine. “I just really wanted to work outside, the outdoors really appealed to me,” Armstrong said. “I’ve always enjoyed gardening, I’ve never tried it on a large scale but here I’m learning some business skills because I’m running a business.” That’s not to say there haven’t been challenges: learning to control weeds and engaging in succession planting all make up the steep learning curve that is gardening. “The hands-off for me has been the hardest thing,” Jean said with a chuckle. “How do we let him do what he needs to learn and do? What’s the balance of it: wanting him to succeed, but in order for him to do that he has lessons he has to learn.”

The hardest part for Armstrong? “Weeding,” he says with a rueful smile. While Armstrong says he probably won’t pursue farming, he’s learned a lot, and plans to continue his own garden even after this season at the Tyler’s farm wraps up. **A way of life** “So we have Kale, Swiss Chard, Lettuce,” Armstrong says, gesturing to each crop of lush vegetables. “As you move farther down we have basil, cilantro over there; some parsley.” Beside a white enclosure full of ripening tomatoes, Jean pulls up deep red radishes and gently places them in a plastic crate for Tuesday afternoon pick-up. The Tyler’s desire to share their land, and mentor young people, is rooted in strongly held values of agricultural stewardship. Each box Armstrong fills is a step towards what they want to see: young people nurturing the land, as has been done on their Dysart et al farm for more than 100 years. “It’s not a way to make millions, it’s a way to care for the land,” Jean told The Highlander under the shade of a wooden shelter where visitors pick up produce boxes. Beside her, Godfrey explains a “crisis” which is part of the reason why they wanted Armstrong to start up the business: “the next generation: how do they learn to be growers, producers?” A 2016 Vanier Institute study reported that over half of Canadian farmers were over 55. Nine per cent were under 35. Godfrey says having Armstrong join the farm this summer is a way for a young person to test out farming. Otherwise, tractors, land costs, tools and more pose too high a price point for people to try out the lifestyle. The couple has also hosted organic farm volunteers through WWOOF (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms). For him and Jean, their land’s value lies in its rich

history as a place where things grow; a place for farming animals; a resource for forestry; a vital part of Haliburton’s landscape. “A farm is not a commodity, it’s a way of life,” Godfrey said. It’s a way of life he and Jean want young people to have a chance to experience. “As much as it’s Evan’s story, it’s also the opportunity for mentoring, to find young people who are interested in agriculture: how do you do it, how do you make it work?”



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Lions and dog guides make for good companions

The Lions' Walk for Dog Guides lawn sale fundraiser raised \$916.10 to fund canine companions for people with disabilities in the County. On Aug. 7, volunteers sold baked goods, trinkets, housewares and locally-made honey outside of Jim and Marilyn Frost's home in Haliburton. Dog guides, which can cost as much as \$35,000 to train, offer vital support and guidance

for people with vision and hearing loss, autism and more. The Lions have long been involved with dog guide fundraising, hosted by the Lions Foundation of Canada. On July 28, dog guide fellowship awards were given to local Lion members, Chris Youngdale and the Lawr family, for their commitment to fundraising efforts. (Sam Gillett)

Top: Lions James Lawr and Mary Lawr hold up goods for sale at the Lions' Walk for Dog Guides fundraiser on August 7. Bottom: Organizer Betty Mills said the bake and yard sale raised \$916.10, funds which will go towards the purchase of dog guides for Canadians with disabilities. Photos by Sam Gillett.

Highlander community



Thirty-seventh time lucky; Burks celebrate Rotary raffle win

Ross and Laurie Burk won the raffle for the 2021 Chevrolet Camaro, and chose to take \$33,000 in cash, which they'll use to buy a new car. The Burks estimate they've bought Rotary club raffle tickets for 37 years. Also pictured is Rotary president Heather Phillips, left and Andrew Hodgson, right, who sold the winning ticket. *Photo by Sam Gillett.*

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Highlander sports

PGA hopeful tees up for big tournament

By Sam Gillett

James Allison says he plays golf to win.

After building up his game over the past several years, the 32-year-old from Haliburton will have a chance to record the 'W' on one of Canada's biggest stages: the Mackenzie Tour.

"It's a huge milestone for me. It's a piece of a dream coming true," Allison said. "Not a lot of golfers have been inside the ropes at a PGA-sanctioned event and I feel very fortunate to be able to do that."

Allison, who lives near Minden, will play alongside Canada's best golfers as they compete at the Osprey Valley Open in Caledon from Aug. 16-22.

It's a chance to impress on a national stage and have a shot at qualifying for the Korn Ferry tour; a pathway to the PGA Tour.

"I'm working my way up, slowly but steady," Allison said.

He's played golf since he was a kid, and began focusing on his game after moving temporarily to Burlington. Now, while also working full-time as an electrician, he spends long hours practicing nearly every day in Lindsay with the hopes of playing golf at the highest level.

"Eventually I got to the point where I thought I could make some money doing this," Allison said.

This summer, he's been playing games on the Toronto Players Tour, a professional and amateur golf circuit in Ontario. Through

that tournament, he got on the waiting list for the Osprey Valley Open.

"I have a lot of confidence going into this event. I wouldn't enter an event if I didn't think I could win it," said Allison in an interview at the Blairhampton Golf Club.

For Allison, playing the McKenzie Tour isn't the end goal: it's the next step in a journey.

"A lot of players make a great living but never win. That's not what I'm striving for: I want to win. I want to be the best, and I really see myself getting there, but I know I'm not going to win every week."

To achieve that goal, the golfer analyzes every part of his game: alignment, ball position, hitting the proper yardages, knowing the greens and the layout of the course and even gauging the wind speed and direction.

"It's about learning that, and how to adjust on the fly," Allison said.

He added mental and physical preparation for high-level games such as the Osprey Valley Open mean ensuring he "peaks" at the right time. That also means playing courses which simulate competition conditions.

"I just want people to know this isn't a fun day on the course for me. I take this seriously, it's my second job, my business," he said. "I strive to be the best."

On his journey to becoming a full-time pro, Allison is learning the business side of



James Allison is a golfer from Haliburton who is set to play his first tournament on the Mackenzie tour in August. Photo by Sam Gillett.

golf too. That means managing social media accounts, building a website and searching for businesses that may want to support him through sponsorships.

"If I can find any partners along the way to help me in my journey, and be a part of

my journey that's great."

Live scoring for the event will be available at mackenzietour.com.

Allison posts about his golf journey on instagram at [jamesallisongolf](https://www.instagram.com/jamesallisongolf), and can be reached at jamesallisongolf@gmail.com.



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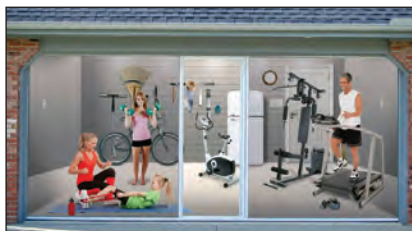


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Sports hall of fame

Life with movement key for athlete Tomlinson

By Lisa Gervais

For Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Famer Anna Tomlinson, lifelong fitness has followed a stellar university and high school athletics career.

Reached in Barrie, where she now lives, Tomlinson said she was “humbled” by being selected to enter the new hall.

She still visits the area for holidays every summer even though her work took her away.

“I love Haliburton,” she said.

Tomlinson added the County offered her a “very authentic childhood” as she grew up on the shores of Boshkong Lake, on the water and spent her summers outdoors.

“It was a beautiful way to grow up. Some of those early successes in sports and learning to persevere spilled over into my professional life.”

Tomlinson was Haliburton Highlands Secondary School’s female athlete of the year three years running. She also won multiple most valuable player awards for volleyball and track and field. She captained the junior and senior volleyball team to district championships, qualified at The Ontario Federation of Schools Athletic Associations for five consecutive years in multiple track and field events, went to the Ontario championships in badminton and was also valedictorian of her 1995 graduating class.

However, her young life was not without

challenge. Her father passed away when she was just 17. She said coach Paul Morissette became a mentor. With his guidance she decided to study kinesiology at York University.

At York, she was a heptathlete, competing in the grueling seven-event sport. She qualified for the Ontario University Athletics finals all four years. She was also a member of the 4x200 relay team, placing fourth at the Canadian Interuniversity Athletics Union championships. At the provincial and federal level, she also medaled in shot put.

She said she was blessed to be able to come home every summer, including working for the MNRF as a forest firefighter out of the Stanhope base which was an excellent job for summer training.

The Hall committee said, “Anna demonstrated a high intensity work ethic and sportsmanship. She was recognized as a leader who built inclusive team morale.”

As the mother of four athletic sons, the committee said she continues to be a role model in every facet of her life.

Asked about her athletic prowess, Tomlinson joked that she was blessed to be six-feet tall.

“They always say you can’t teach height.”

It was at York that she also met her future husband, Darren Kenney, during track and field.

She said for her having a physical outlet has always been key. “It is such a healthy



Anna Tomlinson on the track in school. Photo submitted.

outlet ... life with movement. I went to university and had a good experience, living healthy and life with movement. I can’t imagine life without it.”

Today, at 44, and working in sales, she

spends plenty of time in her home gym. She said for her family, fitness is just part of their lifestyle. She still works out daily. She was also glued to the television in her down time watching the Tokyo Olympics.

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Junior highlanders



Catherine Gaudette and Mary Sisson, of the Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub, are hosting a scavenger hunt for County youth Aug. 14. Photo by Sam Gillett.

The answer's out there: teens hunt clues

By Sam Gillett

Haliburton will soon see teens searching through businesses and snapping selfies during the Youth Wellness Hub's first annual village-wide scavenger hunt.

On Saturday, Aug. 14, the hunt kicks off at noon at the Hub on Dysart Avenue, where participants pick up a scavenger hunt "passport." At each clue hidden in shops and at landmarks around the downtown, teens will take a photo and have the chance

to win prizes if they complete the hunt.

Youth Hub staff will be cruising downtown doling out drinks, snacks and encouragement.

"Different businesses got really excited and have interesting things the youth will have to find," said event organizer Catherine Gaudette. To avoid spoiling the surprise, Gaudette didn't give away which businesses were participating, but was encouraged by the support from local business owners who wanted to take part.

"Every single person I've talked to has been super excited and jumped on board without hesitation."

Hub manager Mary Sisson said the event plays a role in connecting youth back into the community after a year of COVID-19 restrictions.

"COVID has left us all a little disconnected from our community and isolated in some ways," Sisson said. "It's just nice to have youth in the village connecting with business owners and

people in the community that care about them as well, that want to participate and want to engage them."

Pre-registering for the event will make sure the Hub has enough prizes, Gaudette said. She also mentioned that youth without a phone can borrow one in order to take selfies with clues, and rides into Haliburton are also available.

To learn more or register call the Hub at 705-457-2727 or text 705-306-5199.

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HARP ON THE TRAIL

Editor’s note: This is the seventh instalment of a fictional series entitled Harp on the Trail. It’s written by Hope Thompson, who lives in Algonquin Highlands.

Chapter 7: Overgrown

Detective Harry Harp sat down at his desk. It was just after 11 p.m. and he knew that he should feel tired, after being awake since 5:30 in the morning, but instead, his mind was buzzing. On the drive back from Crawford to Spruce, Constable Terry Becker had stopped at a gas station and picked up sandwiches and coffee. The stale, brown liquid Harp was drinking was coffee in name only—but despite its taste, he could feel his heart rate accelerating. And after the interview with Carson Wellers, AKA Skunk, and the discovery of Holden’s investigation into his missing brother, Harp felt the invigoration of the hunt—and his prey was “The Coach.”

Sitting at his desk across from Harp, Becker pulled the wrapper off a tired-looking Dagwood-style sandwich and took a bite while Harp stood up and walked over to the white board. Becker had taped Holden’s drawing of The Coach to the board and Harp eyed it intently.

“Let’s go through Holden’s last day,” Harp said, turning to Becker like a schoolteacher. “He finds out from Skunk that The Coach is in town. No one sees him after 3 p.m., so I think we can assume that he packs his knapsack and heads out on the trail.”

Becker said, “And it takes five hours to walk from Crawford to Spruce, so he would get to Spruce by around 8 p.m.

Harp said, “If his destination is Spruce. Remember, he’s looking for The Coach.”

His sandwich consumed, Becker tossed the wrapper in a garbage can beside his desk. “But this coach guy could be anywhere. I mean, he’s probably halfway across the province by now!” Becker said.

“He’s here. I’m certain of it,” Harp said. Becker looked skeptical.

“Remember I told you that I’ve felt someone watching me?” Harp’s index finger landed on Holden’s drawing. “It’s him. Which shows the kind of man he is!” The detective’s eyes flashed. “A smarter killer would have taken off but not The Coach. To him, this is a game—and he can’t stop playing. He has to be in control.”

Becker rocked back in his chair. “But where is he exactly?”

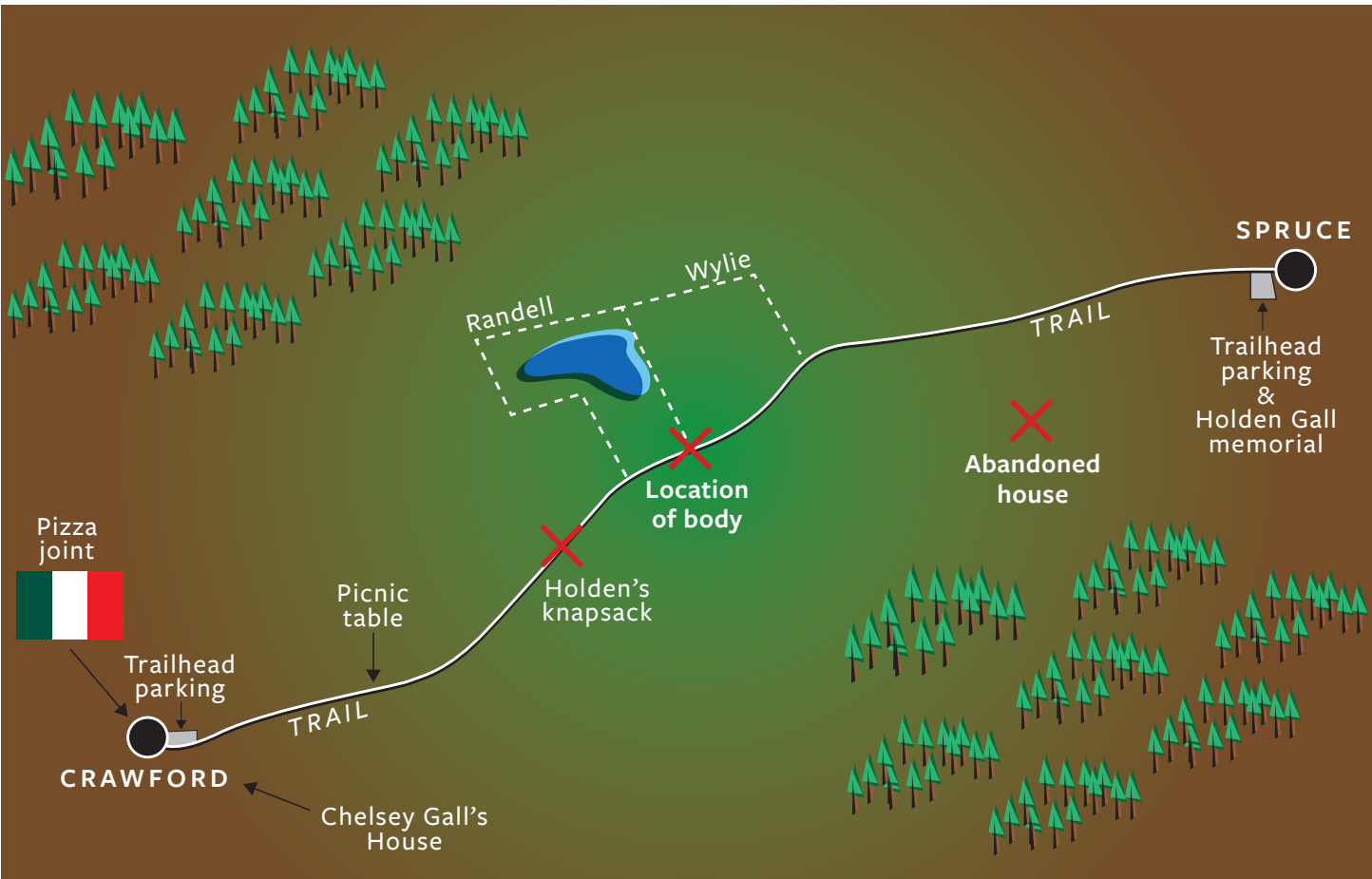
Harp spun around. “He’s on the trail! The answer is on the trail. Now let’s go over the interview notes again. I want to know about everyone whose property backs onto the trail,” Harp added. “And sorry for snapping. It’s the coffee.”

Becker shrugged as he shuffled through the papers on his desk, then he found a folder and opened it.

“You’re lucky I had a Coke,” he said, smiling, then he read off the names and summaries of each interview. He had already marked them on the map and Harp eyed each property as the constable described what the interviewing officers had learned.

“That’s it,” Becker said, closing the folder. “Thirteen properties.”

Harp turned to him. “But you only read 10



interview summaries.”

Becker stood up and stretched. “Three houses were unoccupied.”

Harp’s eyes widened. “What?”

Becker exhaled slowly and evenly, then said, “Two of the properties are cottages, and in each case, the officer spoke to neighbours who said the owners were away. And the third house was abandoned.”

Harp’s eyes bulged out of his head.

“Sir, one of our officers checked it at two different times and saw no evidence of activity.”

“Where is this place?” Harp said, his heart racing.

Becker pointed at a narrow strip of land about halfway between where Holden’s body was found and the Spruce trailhead.

For a moment, the only sound in the room was the buzz of florescent lights, until Harp’s voice broke the silence. “We’re going there now.”

This time it was Becker’s eyes that bulged out of his head. “Now?”

Harp didn’t bother answering. He was too busy grabbing his gun from the bottom drawer of his desk.

[space intentional]

The two men sat in silence as Becker drove along the deserted highway. A starless sky hung around them, pierced only by the car’s yellow headlights on the centre line. Becker pulled onto the gravel shoulder and cut the engine, and both men stepped out of the car. The constable flipped open his notebook and shone his phone light on one of the pages.

“The old driveway should be just along

here,” Becker whispered.

Harp followed him to a chained gate that was obscured by prickly weeds that were taller than the detectives. Pushing aside stalks and branches, they climbed over the gate, then started down the overgrown driveway. Becker doused his light and darkness folded around them like a blanket. Except for the sound of their footsteps, and the rustle and creak of nature, the forest was silent.

The driveway wound over hilly terrain and Harp tried to hide his panting. He stumbled on a tree root and Becker grabbed his arm and pulled him up. The two men stopped for a moment and listened but heard nothing but the skittering of some nocturnal creature.

Harp’s heart pounded and it wasn’t only from physical exertion. Again, he felt like he was being watched. And just then, the shadowy shape of a single-story house appeared set in a circle of towering pines. The men walked towards the structure and part of Harp’s mind nagged at him, wondering why he didn’t wait until the morning to investigate. Without warning, Becker shone a light through a cracked window.

“Nothing,” he whispered.

Harp jumped at the sound of Becker’s voice and inwardly urged himself to be calm. But just the same, his heart hammered against his ribs and for a moment, he felt old and scared. Pushing aside his fears, he summoned Holden Gall’s image into his mind.

Holden was on this very quest. Finish it

for the boy. Do your job.

Six feet ahead of Harp, Becker pushed through the undergrowth towards the front door. The vegetation was thick on the ground and bound around the detectives’ legs, catching on their shoes with each step and locking around their ankles like grabbing fingers. Suddenly, Becker stood still. Harp stopped moving, too, his heart up near his throat, until he saw Becker pull out his light and shine it down at his feet. Harp followed the light—and froze. They were both knee-deep in a waxy green bed of English ivy.

In the moment Harp realized that Holden died in the very spot they were standing in, the front door burst open. As if in slow motion, Harp felt the air shift, smelled the decay and dust of the inside of the house as it groaned open, then a second later, heard the crash of boots down wooden stairs. A beam of light blinded the men and they stumbled backwards.

Harp reached for his gun but just as he did, he felt a circle of metal poke into his back. He felt disoriented—how could someone be in front of him and behind him, too? How many where there? A searing pain ended his questions, and he heard a strange gurgling sound coming from somewhere until he realized it was from his own mouth.

And finally, the blanket of darkness that enveloped the forest spread over the detective’s consciousness, too.

Highlander events

Celebrating diversity and inclusion with Pride

By Sam Gillett

Whether at farmers markets, general stores or on the main street of Minden, there's a good chance you've seen Minden Pride's colourful "Pridemobile" as it toured the County this summer.

Now the group is finalizing preparations for its annual Pride Week, to be opened with a flag raising in downtown Minden Aug. 23.

"There's starting to be a lot of excitement. I think there's been a pent-up demand to get out and do things now that restrictions are lessening there's a lot of people that are very interested," said Minden Pride chair Allan Guinan.

This year's theme is "proud and hopeful," celebrating diversity and inclusion.

"We're very proud of what we have achieved in terms of the six years we've been building and growing this event," Guinan said. "We're also really hopeful coming out of this global pandemic. It's making people realize the importance of being kind to everyone."

This year's events include a scavenger hunt, trivia, movie nights and even a "Float Down the Gull with Pride" physically-distanced river parade.

Guinan said a highlight of the week will be the dedication of a bench established in memory of Sinclair Russell, Minden Pride co-founder, on Aug. 27.

"We're just really thrilled to be able to



Minden Pride volunteers beside the Pridemobile at the Haliburton Farmers Market July 6. Photo by Sam Gillett.

have people out to recognize Sinclair's involvement in building Minden Pride initially and evolving it into an important event to the community."

Alongside the dedication, people will pay tribute to Russell in a video played later that day.

In advance of Pride week, the Pridemobile has been a mobile way to store merchandise and spread awareness.

"It's just kind of a very perspective of us staying positive out there in the community," Guinan said. "COVID and the

pandemic has squashed a lot of what we were hoping we could get done but we've got a lot of positive energy."

Bob Fisher, a member of Minden Pride, plans to add an international perspective to this year's events.

He's a representative of Rainbow Railroad, a global not-for-profit which helps LGBTQI+ people who are persecuted around the world.

"You can't believe the kind of discrimination and hatred that's going on," he said.

The organization raises money to relocate persecuted people, often teenagers; that's a cause he connected with. "That's where I want to spend my charity money that's my people."

Fisher will be sharing information about donating and getting involved with Rainbow Railroad initiatives throughout the week.

Minden Pride week runs from Aug. 23-29. For a full schedule of events visit mindenpride.ca.

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Key Map

This map shows the study area (red shaded region) located near Horseshoe Lake and Gull River. The map includes a legend and a scale bar.

Legend:

- Lands Subject to PLOZA2020948 (Red shaded area)
- Provincial Highway (Thick black line)
- County Road (Orange line)
- Township Road (Thin black line)
- Private Road (Dashed black line)

Scale: 0 to 500 Meters

1	S	2	I	3	P	4	S		5	E	6	T	7	T	8	O		9	B	10	O	11	O	12	T	13	S
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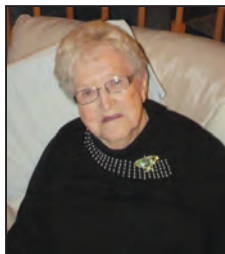
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OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of
Roean Nila Barnhart
(nee Davis)

Passed away peacefully on Saturday, August 7, 2021 at the Haliburton Hospital at the age of 85.

Loving wife of the late Jack Barnhart for 53 years. Wonderful mother to Lynn (Larry) Watson of Peterborough, Sandra (Greg)

Bishop of Carnarvon, Barbara (Jim) Winn of Haliburton and Gail (Ross) Barnhart-Anderson of Paris. Cherished grandmother to Andrew (Cassy), Jeffrey (Alitsha), Christopher (Courtney), Mallory (best friend Kim), Adrian (Ashlee), Kenton (Randi), and Malcolm (Emily). Great grandma to Bianca, Emmett, Quinn, Ellie, Mason, Kenzie and Callie. Dear sister of the late Shirley (Edmund) Edwards, Doris (Jack) Redner, Merle (Francis) Thomas, Moss Davis, Albert (Doreen) Davis, Delbert Davis, Murry Davis, survived by her sisters-in-law Betty and Shirley. Fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Thursday from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm. A Graveside Funeral Service and Interment will be held at the Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery, 1112 Chambers Rd., Carnarvon on Friday, August 13th, 2021 at 2:00 pm.

Please Note # Due to COVID-19 Restrictions, a limited amount of visitors will be allowed in the Funeral Home at one time and all remaining visitors will have to line up outside of the Funeral Home. For the Graveside Funeral Service there is a limit of 100 Attendees. Social distancing with face coverings and lists of attendees, names and phone numbers are required for contact tracing.

Memorial Donations to the Maple Lake United Church or Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) (designated for Highland Wood) would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



THANK YOU



HARINA LYNN

THANK YOU to our family and friends for all your kindness during this difficult time. We are truly grateful for your cards, flowers, food and donations made in Mom's name.

Special thanks to the staff of Hyland Crest for their excellent care to Mom, also to Haliburton Community Funeral Home,

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Arlene & Jim Scheffee

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The family of
James Barrie Smith



beloved husband of Melinda Corneille, father to Christopher (Laura) of Burbank California, David (Misao) of Brooklyn New York, grandpa to Quentin, Hannah and Liam, dear brother to Ginnie Vrooman, Ellen Williams, Bob Smith and Cathy Giles, uncle to numerous nieces

and nephews and doting parent to his dog Spike, is sad to announce his passing on August 2nd, 2021, at Ottawa General Hospital, in his 79th year.

Born and raised in Amherst, Nova Scotia, Barrie distinguished himself in a province-wide high school math contest, which led to an electrical engineering degree at McGill. That was just the start of his travels, as Barrie joined Bell Canada, initially working up in Frobisher Bay on Baffin Island. He met his wife, an American flight attendant, when she was on a layover in Ottawa, beginning a whirlwind romance that saw them making their first home there. Both free spirits, they would move their family to Sudbury, then Mississauga. From there they embarked on a five year adventure working for Bell International in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, which allowed them to travel the world together. Upon their return to Mississauga, Barrie's love of family, dogs, sailing, and the Canadian wilderness meant much time indulging in all the above on his sailboat in Georgian Bay. He also took on challenges bigger than himself, generously making time to volunteer with the Canadian Cancer Society. His continued love of the outdoors led to a retirement in Haliburton, where he would hike with his dog, no matter the weather. Barrie & Lindy's curiosity about the world spurred their involvement with Friendship Force, where they shared their love of Ontario's cottage country while hosting families from all over the world, and were in turn guests in homes across several continents. His tireless energy, his acerbic wit, and most of all, his love, will be sorely missed.

In lieu of flowers the family asks donations to be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Friends are invited to visit at the Central Chapel of Hulse, Playfair & McGarry, 315 McLeod Street (at O'Connor) on Sunday, August 15, 2021 from 1pm to 2pm EDT, with attendance by RSVP on the funeral home website at www.hpmcgarry.ca. A Memorial Service in the Chapel will follow at 2pm EDT, with attendance by RSVP on the funeral home website.

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

2	3	1	8	5	7	6	9	4
6	8	7	1	9	4	2	3	5
9	4	5	6	3	2	1	8	7
8	2	9	4	6	1	7	5	3
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5	7	3	2	8	9	4	1	6
4	9	6	3	1	8	5	7	2
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1	G	I	B	B	5	P	E	R	C	H	10	B	E	A	D						
14	E	L	L	A	15	E	M	I	L	Y	16	E	N	D	O						
17	T	O	A	D	18	G	E	T	U	P	19	E	S	A	U						
20	E	N	C	S	21	G	R	E	E	N	22	T	H	U	M	B					
23	M	A	K	E	24	M	E				25	R	O	S	I	E	S	T			
					26	F	E	E	D	27	O	N			28						
30	F	R	O	D						32	L	O	N	I	34	E	B	A	Y		
38	O	O	O		39	R	E	D	N	E	C	41	K		42	L	O	O			
43	E	N	T	44	R					45	L	E	O	S	46						
				48	U	S	B			50	S	T			51	R	O	V	E		
52	C	H	I	N	O	O	K	55							56	E	X	E	T	E	R
59	Y	E	L	L	O	W	H	E	A	D	60				61						
63	N	A	L	A						64	P	A	R	T	I	65	A	O	U	T	
66	D	R	I	P						67	A	K	I	N	G	68	C	T	R	S	
69	I	A	N	S						70	D	I	N	O	S	71	T	H	E	O	

The Bright Stuff

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

- Across**

 - 1 Drinks carefully
 - 5 Suffix with amar- or stil-
 - 9 Ousts, with "out"
 - 14 Civil War Gen. Robert ____
 - 15 Jump "of faith"
 - 16 Blacksmith's block
 - 17 Words of exasperation, after "for"
 - 19 Touchy partner?
 - 20 Part 1 of a "bright" observation
 - 22 "I'm ____ end of my rope!"
 - 23 Hoops great Shaquille
 - 24 Report card stinkers
 - 27 Part 2 of the observation
 - 30 Fin. inst. whose logo is a lion and a globe
 - 33 Adjust, as a manuscript
 - 34 "Am ____ late?"
 - 35 Stir, as suspicion
 - 37 Arrives on the scene
 - 39 Attire for the highchair set
 - 40 Copy in a bio lab
 - 43 "Go team go!"
 - 44 Part 3 of the observation
 - 48 Fist-thumper's feeling
 - 49 Share one's views
 - 50 Woods use in shipbuilding
 - 54 End of the observation
 - 57 Hasbro's "game of unspeakable fun"
 - 59 Company "handle"
 - 60 No-____ (gnat)
 - 61 Lose focus, with "out"
 - 62 9-1-1 call, e.g.: Abbr.
 - 63 Command from "le général"
 - 64 W.W.I Belgian battle site
 - 65 "Drat!", in the sticks

- Down**

 - 1 Old photo colour
 - 2 "Uh oh, ____ the oven on!"
 - 3 Small, in Ste-Foy
 - 4 Fume in silence
 - 5 "What ____ is new"
 - 6 Sweet-smelling flower
 - 7 Accepted, as a duty
 - 8 Side of the envelope the letter goes in
 - 9 Leave puzzled
 - 10 ____'clock (noonhour's end)
 - 11 One who cleans out the buffet trays?
 - 12 For as long as, briefly
 - 13 Foxy?
 - 18 Members of Abba or First Aid Kit
 - 21 Caught sight of, to Tweety Bird
 - 25 ____ MacDonald, Canada's first female foreign minister
 - 26 Swirl sloppily, as a dishrag
 - 28 George Harrison's "____ Mine"
 - 29 Dah's Morse mate
 - 30 Bar Mitzvah overseer
 - 31 Annual Canadian curling championship
 - 32 Decked out spookily, in a way
 - 36 "Old Glory's" ctry.
 - 37 Official lang. of Singapore
 - 38 Prickly plant
 - 40 Unlikely to leave a big tip, say
 - 41 Hockey Hall-of-Famer Eric
 - 42 For single, alternating traffic
 - 45 Still ahead
 - 46 Bal. sheet whiz
 - 47 Streaked, as blue cheese
 - 51 "Anyone up for ____ of cards?"
 - 52 ____ Rouge, Cambodian guerrilla
 - 53 Rear admiral's rear
 - 55 Word with "Honour" or "Grace"
 - 56 River of Germany
 - 57 Classical grp. at Roy Thomson Hall
 - 58 Prefix meaning "atmosphere"

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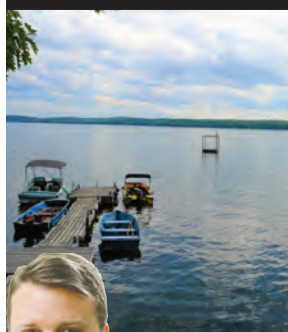
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